



Noël





This
Little Golden Book®
belongs to
GoldenBookGal
2025

Noël



By Romeo Muller
Illustrated by Bill A. Langley

A GOLDEN BOOK • NEW YORK

Western Publishing Company, Inc., Racine, Wisconsin 53404

© 1991 Romeo Muller. Illustrations © 1993 Romeo Muller and Pacific Animation Corporation. All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S.A. No part of this book may be reproduced or copied in any form without written permission from the copyright owner. All trademarks are the property of Western Publishing Company, Inc. Library of Congress Catalog Card Number: 92-73248 ISBN: 0-307-30131-1 MCMXCV



Of all the Christmas tree ornaments made that year so very long ago, only one had a Happiness. The ornament was round, red, and shiny, and his name was Noel.

Now, at the very moment Noel was created, old Herman, the glassblower, received some wonderful news. His only daughter had just given birth to a baby girl.

Old Herman was a grandpa at last! He cried for pure joy.

It was Noel's good fortune that one of those tears of joy bounced off Herman's puffed cheek, trickled down his glassblower's pipe, and fell with a tinkling sound inside Noel. It became the small ornament's Happiness.



"MY NAME IS NOEL
AND I HAVE A HAPPINESS!"
shouted the magical little ornament.



Noel was placed in a cardboard box with eleven other ornaments. And all of them together were a thing called a Dozen. They were taken to a store where they became a thing called For Sale.

Noel was quite excited. But the other ornaments were bored and sleepy. You see, none of the others had a Happiness.

The Dozen were purchased by a People-thing called a Mother. The Mother-thing was accompanied by three smaller pretty things called Children.

"I like Children-things the best!" cried Noel.

"They are little, noisy, and happy—like me!"

The other ornaments just grumbled.



The Mother-thing took the Dozen to a beautiful old house where she and her three little Children-things lived with a Father-thing.

"Everybody inside," she said merrily. "For tonight is Christmas Eve and there is lots to do."

Later that night, after the Children-things went to sleep, Noel and the Dozen were hung on the branches of a Christmas tree named Brutus. Tiny glowing lights known as the Mazda Sisters and bright strands of silver known as the Tinsel Clan twinkled all about them.



Around the base of the tree the Father-thing set up a toy electric train named McIves. It chugged its Christmas message: "Season's greetings. Season's greetings!"

And then a special space was made for one final mysterious thing that was placed lovingly under Brutus by the Mother-thing.



"What's that down there, Brutus?" Noel asked the huge tree, who had become his friend. "I can't see inside."



"It's a little toy stable," answered Brutus.

"But why would they have a toy stable?" Noel wanted to know.

"Well, Noel, somehow that little stable is what tonight is all about."



The next day it was a magnificent thing called Christmas!

There were toys and there was laughter. Presents were exchanged and there was more laughter. Grandpa- and Grandma-things visited and there was even more laughter.

Oh, it was a wonderful time that went on for seven whole days and nights.

But then it became a terrible thing called January Second: the Back-to-Normal-thing. Noel and all the other things that made Christmas magic were packed back in their boxes. And Brutus was hauled outside.

"Good-bye, little fellow, good-bye," the tree called to Noel. "Keep that Happiness of yours. Never lose it."



Noel and the others were put into a high, dusty, dark thing called an Attic, where time passed very slowly. Outside the house it became things called Springtime and Summer and Autumn.

Then came the first snowfall! And then, finally . . .



"HEY! IT'S BACK AGAIN! THE GOOD-THING! THE WONDERFUL-BEAUTIFUL-CHRISTMASFUL-THING!" cried Noel.

There was a new tree, but everything else was the same as the year before: the Mother- and Father-things, the Children-things, the lights, the toys, old McIves, and, of course, the mysterious toy stable.

But soon Christmas was over, and the Attic-thing was Noel's prison once more. In this way year followed year, a bittersweet blend of joy and a dusty attic.



And as the years passed, the Children-things grew up and the Mother- and Father-things grew old. And then one day the Father-thing said, "Aw, let's not bother with a tree this year."



There would be no more Christmases. The nice old house, empty now and falling into disrepair, had only the memories of holidays long ago. Noel and the rest of the Dozen were left in the attic to become faded and chipped and a thing called Forgotten.

Could everything be over?

Nothing is ever truly over when one has a Happiness. And so one happy day, years later . . .



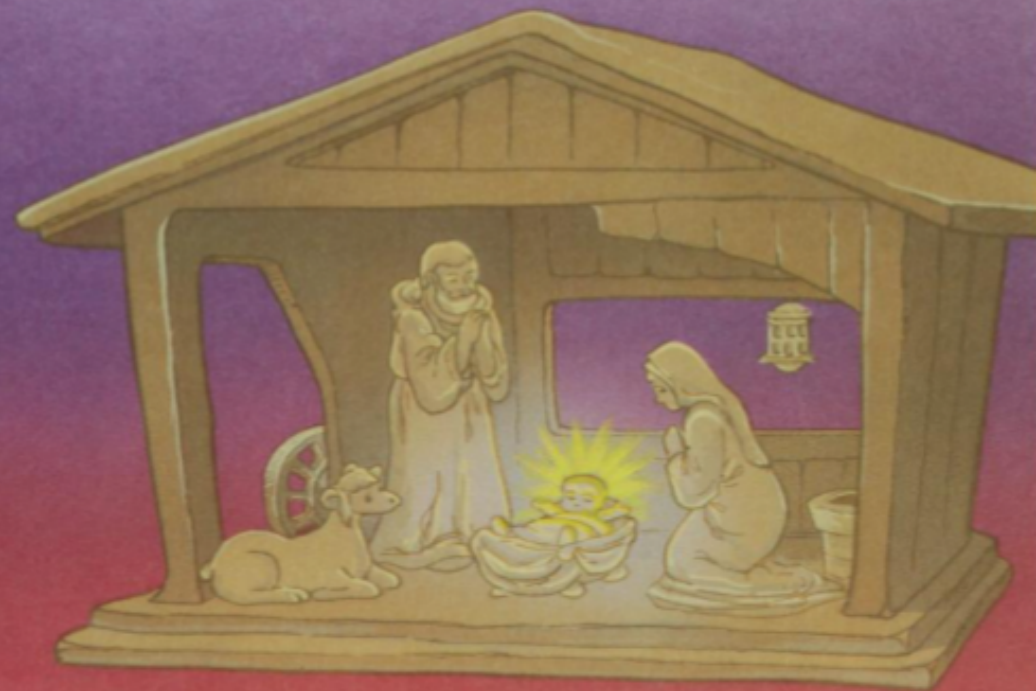
a new family moved in. The new Father-thing painted and repaired the house. It looked just the way it had years before. It was ready for the holidays again.



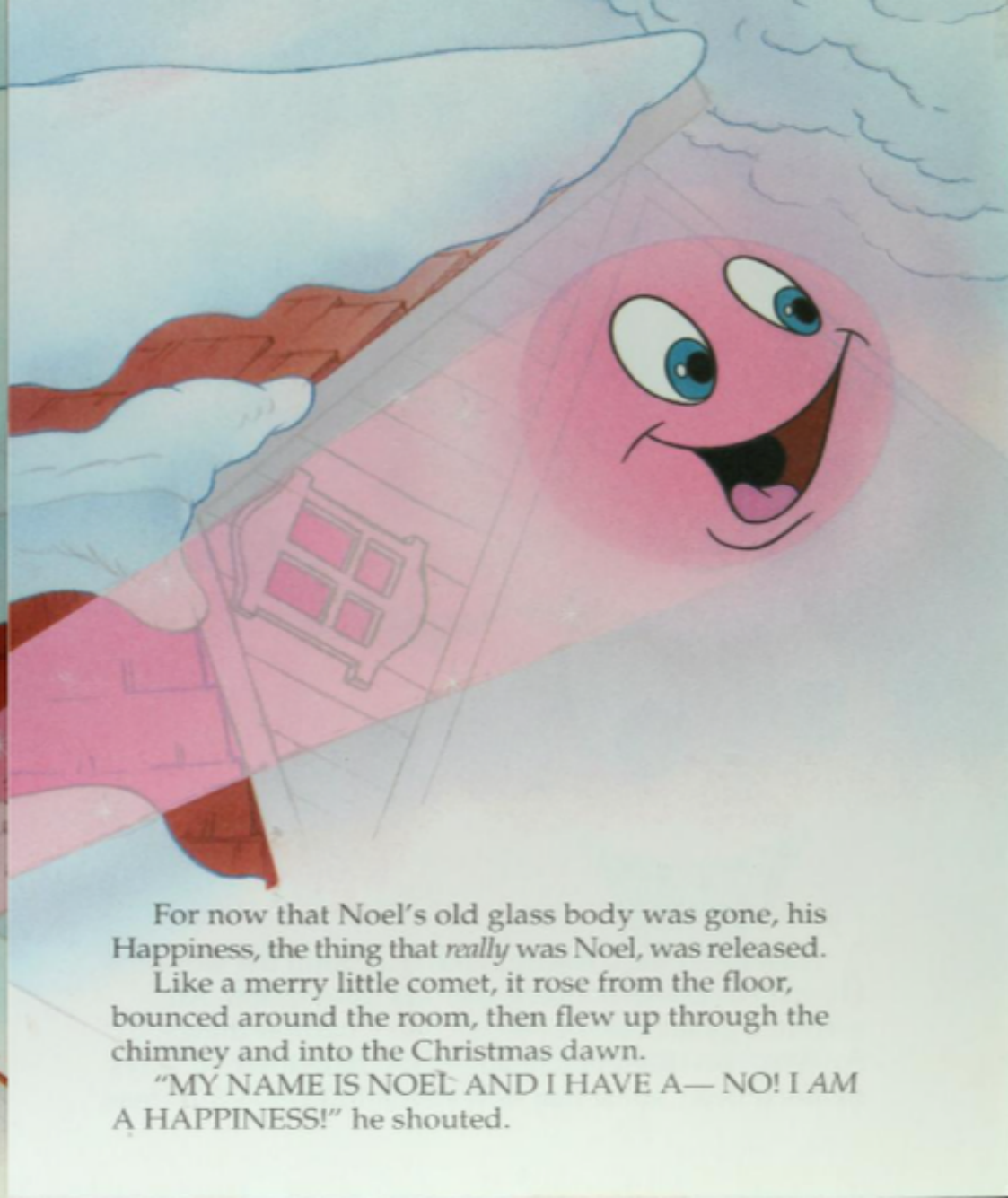
On Christmas Eve the new Mother-thing found the old decorations in the attic and hung Noel on the tree. But Noel had grown weak. His once-sturdy hook could no longer support him. Suddenly it gave way! Poor Noel fell to the floor and was smashed.



Even though Noel's body was broken into a hundred pieces, he was still aware. And from his position on the floor he could see into the little toy stable for the first time.



"Why, there are little toy People-things," he said. "And a little toy Child-thing." And then there was a thing called the Miracle.



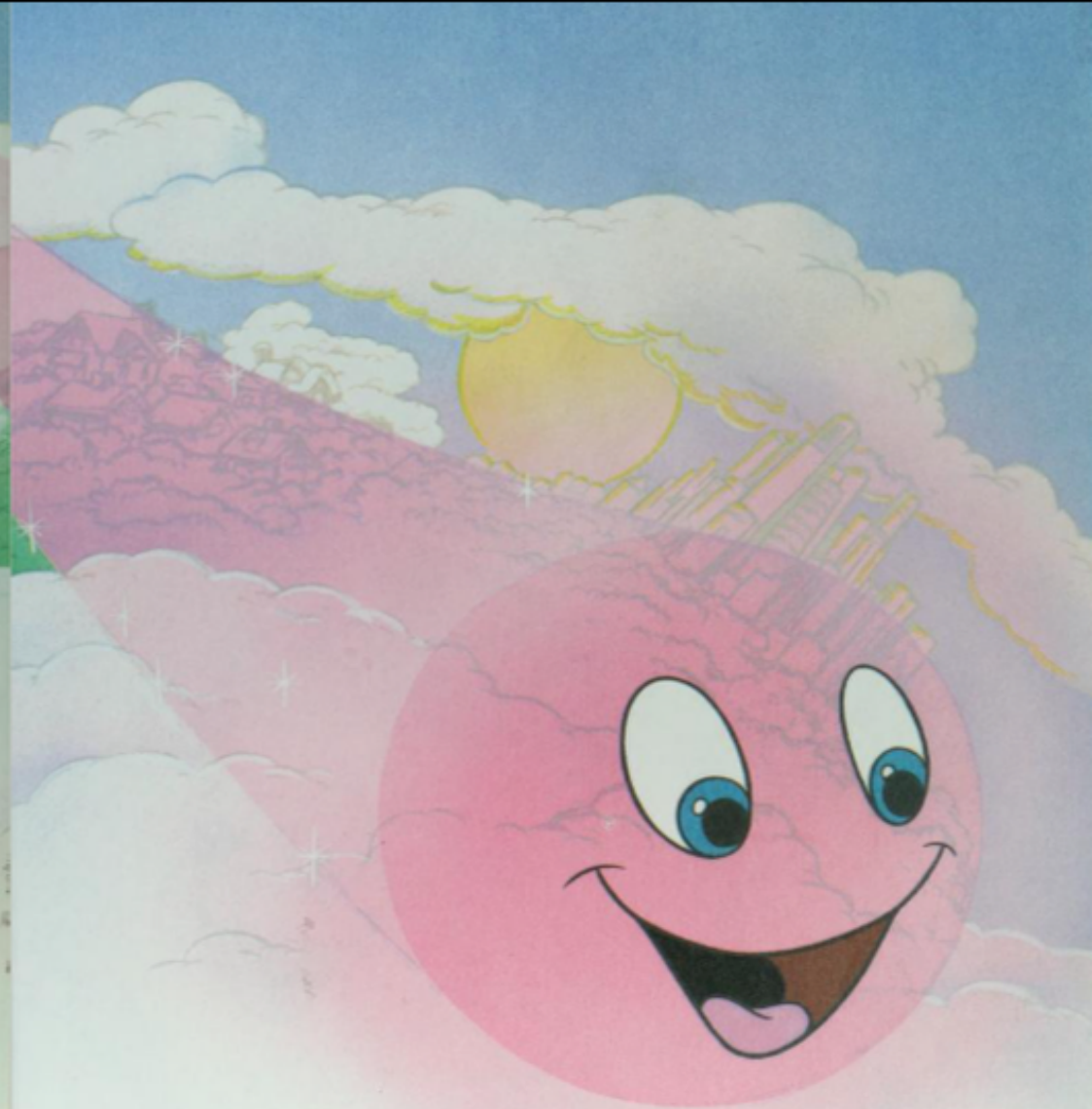
For now that Noel's old glass body was gone, his Happiness, the thing that *really* was Noel, was released.

Like a merry little comet, it rose from the floor, bounced around the room, then flew up through the chimney and into the Christmas dawn.

"MY NAME IS NOEL AND I HAVE A— NO! I AM A HAPPINESS!" he shouted.

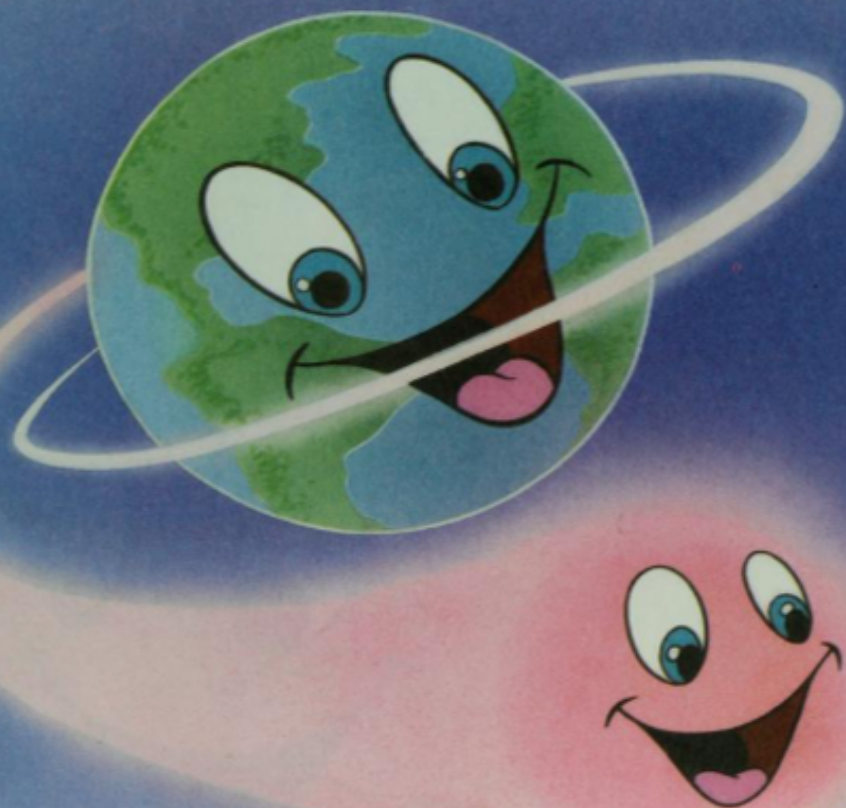


Noel raced the Christmas dawn around the world. He visited houses of every size and description. And each had its own set of People- and Children-things. Some spoke different languages and had different ways of life. Indeed, some had never even heard of Christmas.



"Who cares?" shouted Noel. "I've got enough Happiness for *everybody*!"

For, wonder of wonders, little Noel had become the pure joy of Christmas. And he would live on forever in the hearts of all mankind.



"Merry Christmas!" shouted Noel. "MERRY CHRISTMAS!"

How many of these LITTLE GOLDEN BOOKS® have you read?

Aladdin?
Aladdin: The Magic Carpet Ride?
Baby Farm Animals
Barbie: The Big Splash**
Barbie: Soccer Coach Barbie**
Barbie: Trail Blazer Barbie**
Barbie: Very Busy Barbie**
Beauty and the Beast?
Beauty and the Beast: The Teapot's Tale †
Big Bird Brings Spring to Sesame Street*
The Bunnies' Counting Book
Casper and Friends: Boo-o-o on First*
The Cat That Climbed the Christmas Tree
Cats
A Child's Year
The Christmas Bunny
The Christmas Story
Cinderella?
The Color Kittens
Daddies
Donald Duck's Christmas Tree?
The Elves and the Shoemaker
The Emperor's New Clothes
Fozzie Goes to the Doctor
Fozzie's Funnies
From Trash to Treasure*
Frosty the Snowman(†)
The Golden Egg Book
Grover's Guide to Good Manners*
Halloween ABC
Happy and Sad, Grumpy and Glad*
Home for a Bunny
I Can't Wait Until Christmas*
Jack and the Beanstalk


The Jungle Book?
Kitty's New Doll
The Lion King?
The Lion King: No Worries!
Little Cuddletail
Little Golden Picture Dictionary
The Little Mermaid?
The Little Mermaid: Ariel's Underwater Adventure?
Little Mouse's Book of Colors
The Little Red Caboose
The Littlest Christmas Elf
"Me Cookie!"*
The Monster at the End of This Book*
My First Counting Book
My Kindergarten Counting Book
My Little Golden Book About God
My Little Golden Mother Goose
The Night Before Christmas
Noel
The Nutcracker
Old MacDonald
101 Dalmatians†
Oscar's New Neighbor*
Peter Pan?
Pinocchio!
The Poky Little Puppy
The Poky Little Puppy's First Christmas
Prayers for Children
Precious Moments: Put on a Happy Face! †
The Princess and the Pea
Pussy Willow
Richard Scarry's Best Balloon Ride Ever!
Richard Scarry's Best Little Word Book Ever!

Richard Scarry's Busiest Fire Fighters Ever!
Richard Scarry's Chipmunk's ABC
Richard Scarry's Floating Bananas
Richard Scarry's Hilda Needs Help!
Richard Scarry's Mr. Frumble's Coffee Shop Disaster
Richard Scarry's The Snowstorm Surprise
Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer †
Santa's Toy Shop?
Sneaky the Tugboat
Sesame Street's Mother Goose Rhymes*
Sleeping Beauty?
Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs?
Snow White and Rose Red
The Sorcerer's Apprentice?
The Tale of Peter Rabbit
Twinsy Scrawny Lion
This Is My Family
3, 2, 1-JUMP!*
Thumbelina
Tootle
The Twelve Dancing Princesses
The Twelve Days of Christmas
The Ugly Duckling
The Velveteen Rabbit
What's Up in the Attic?*
The Whispering Rabbit
Winnie the Pooh and the Honey Tree?
Winnie the Pooh: Eeyore, Be Happy!!
Winnie the Pooh: The Grand and Wonderful Day?

GOLDEN BOOKS • NEW YORK

Western Publishing Company, Inc., Racine, Wisconsin 53404

* ©Children's Television Workshop, Jim Henson's Sesame Street Muppet Characters ©Jim Henson Productions, Inc.
† ©The Walt Disney Company * ©Harvey Comics Entertainment, Inc. † ©Jim Henson Productions, Inc.
** ©Mattel, Inc. ‡ ©Robert L. May Company § ©Precious Moments, Inc. ¶ ©Warner/Chappell Music
© Western Publishing Company, Inc.



LITTLE GOLDEN BOOKS®

Children have loved
LITTLE GOLDEN BOOKS® for over 50 years.

They have written their names
inside each front cover and pored
over the colorful pictures. Parents
have shared golden moments
with their children, reading such
classics as *The Poky Little Puppy*.
Thanks to the happy hours spent
with these books, many children have
developed a lifelong love of reading.

Over one billion LITTLE GOLDEN BOOKS®
have reached the hands of children.

We salute the talented authors
and artists who create the books—
and also the readers, young and old,
who have enjoyed the picture books
with the famous gold-foil binding.

